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(54) COPYING METHOD

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain a proper copy image by reading the density of a document by a sensor which has three spectral density distributions, determining one mean value from numbers of density values, and controlling the density of the copy image according to the mean value.

CONSTITUTION: The document 1 is set on a document mount surface 10 and a copy key is operated, so that color filters Y, M, and C and stops 25 and 26 are set at reference positions. Then a light source unit 14 and a lens unit 22 move synchronously and a reference plate 13 and the document 11 are irradiated with slit light, thereby making a scan. Reflected light from them is converged by a mirror 32 and guided to a light measuring means 33, which measures three color components of red, green, and blue. The document density is found from the logarithmic conversion values of light quantity signals of the three colors and the logarithmic conversion value of the measured value of the reference plate 13. One mean value W is determined from three colors of the document density. The relation between the value W and reference exposure quantities is stored previously and copy conditions are set according to the

stored relation to control the quantity of exposure with the opening extents of the stops 25 and 26.

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